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HOME PHONE 244
THURSDAY, JAN. 17, 1907.

It is asserted the watch trust is going to advance prices. But probably we can still buy timepieces on tick.

If Persia's new constitution will only look at ours, it will see a great many things that are liable to happen to it.

That rumor about Mr. Cortelyou resigning from the National Committee must feel very much surprised at being verified.

If Mr. Harriman's Salton Sea keeps on spreading, he will soon be able to drop railroading and run a transcontinental ferry line.

An editorial says "there are two sides to the English school question". But you cannot get either side to admit there is more than one side to it.

Congress is nearing the end of its session, but it certainly ought to appoint a committee to receive a few of the president's messages during the interval.

It is possible that the next federal investigation will discover some working agreement between the block signal manufacturers and the undertakers' trust.

What may be considered a really authentic announcement of Dick Croker's re-entry into New York politics is the nomination of one of his horses to the suburban handicap.

"Governor Hughes Hews" is the head line in a New York paper, and the chances are that a lot of New York office-holders are going to feel the axe in the neighborhood of the cervical vertebra.

The W. C. T. U. has compiled statistics to show that there are seventy-eight different sorts of cocktails, and adds as a warning, that they all lead to the same place. We won't be certain of that, but they all go to the same place anyhow.

In the course of a little while the country will know whether Congress considers that the president was within his rights in discharging the members of the 25th Infantry, who were dishonorably mustered out of service. This is one of the finest opportunities that the opponents of the administration in Congress have had to make a personal fight on the president, thinly veiled under the show of a regard for law and facts. The president has strong defenders on the floor of both the House and the Senate and by the time the contest is over the Senate in particular will know that there has been a fight in its neighborhood.

As to the law in the case Senator Lodge outlined it very plainly in his opening speech last week and the public that follows the debate and its outcome may bear it firmly in mind that there

is just one point of law to be settled, no matter how the opposition may try to muddy the water.

Two points can be raised, one of law, and the other of fact. As Senator Lodge says, there is no question that there was shooting at night on the streets in Brownsville, the fact that remains to be determined is whether it was the soldiers who did the shooting, or citizens of Brownsville disguised as soldiers. There was one man killed, another so badly wounded that his arm had to be amputated, and another had his horse shot under him, narrowly escaping death. An investigation on the ground may and ought to bring out whether it was the citizens, willing to stop not even at murder, who did the shooting in order to cast disgrace upon the soldiers, or whether it was the soldiers themselves who are guilty.

The president will be perfectly willing to see this point of fact settled, but about the law in the case, there is absolutely no question. The president is the commander-in-chief of the army, and as such he can enlist and dismiss soldiers at pleasure. Senator Lodge in his defense of the president had armed himself with a multitude of precedents in this line and showed conclusively that it was always the commander-in-chief's prerogative in every clime and country to dismiss soldiers or whole regiments of them if he deemed it for the good of the service or the public. Senator Lodge pointed out that an enlistment was a contract terminable not at the option of the soldier, but of the commander of the army who employed him. This has been held true innumerable times, and if it were not true there would be no safety for the country could an armed regiment be retained in its place on the rolls in defiance of its superior officer. The Attorney General, the Constitutional League, and any one else who wishes to investigate the affair may discover all the facts they choose about who actually did the shooting. But about the president's right to dismiss as many companies or regiments as he chooses, it would seem, from Senator Lodge's statement, there can be no question whatever.

WASHINGTON LETTER.
Worse reports are received daily by the Interstate Commerce Commission as to the fuel famine that is afflicting the northwest. North Dakota is the worst sufferer, and Senator Hansborough has been in receipt of a score of messages showing that the situation there is about as bad as it could be in a civilized country. Towns with as many as 2500 inhabitants report that they are without a pound of coal, and beg for immediate relief. In other places there are coal supplies for periods of not more than a week or a fortnight, many of the towns have had orders for coal placed in Minneapolis for three months past. They have not been able to get it transported by the railroads. But the worst situation, Senator Hansborough says, is likely to reveal itself next spring in the outlying districts where there are 15,000 settlers off the line of the railroads, of whom nothing has been heard and nothing can be heard till the weather moderates. It is always cold in this country in winter time, and this year in addition to having the thermometer from 10 to 38 degrees below zero there have been unusual snows, so that the homestead settlers off the line of the railroad are completely cut off from communication with the towns. Most of these people are living in little frame and tar papered houses, holding down their homesteads in accordance with law, and it is feared that there may

be a sad story to tell of suffering and death among them before the weather moderates sufficiently to send them relief. The trouble is laid largely at the doors of the railways. Both the Great Northern and Soo Lines, which serve the afflicted territory, devoted all their energies last summer and fall to track-laying in the new territory. They transported equipment with utter disregard for service to the communities belonging to distant lines, and the result has been that the settlers have been unable either to get their produce in market, or to provide themselves with sufficient food and fuel against the deadly northern winter. These are not pleasant days for the railroads. Almost everyone in authority seems to unite in making it unpleasant for them and in addition to the passage of the rate bill and other "adverse" railway legislation, they are apt to face a world of condemnation in the car shortage and block signal reports soon to be rendered against them by the Interstate Commerce Commission. Eight employees of the Baltimore and Ohio railway, including three of the higher officials have just been held by the grand jury as a result of the notable wreck at Terra Cotta near Washington. The officials in question were allowed to go free pending the settlement of their bail, but the trainmen, having fewer friends, were incontinentally locked up. Representative Murphy of Missouri has already introduced a resolution into the House inquiring why this favoritism was shown, and it is probable that the district attorney will have much explaining to do before he makes this act of favoritism appear in a favorable light. Along with the other matters that are likely to receive attention in the report on the block signal system is the pay of the men and boys employed by the railroads as block signal telegraph operators. It has already been made clear in the investigation that these men are overcrowded with work, and receive such miserable pay that none but the lowest grade of telegraph operators can be found in the railway service. There are in fact three distinct classes of telegraphers. The railway operators, the operators in the employ of the commercial companies, and the press operators employed by the newspapers and the big press associations. It might appear to the outsider that the railroad telegraphers, having so much responsibility, would be the highest class of men. As a matter of fact they are the lowest. Their wages run from \$30 a month to \$55 or \$60, and most of them are mere boys who are just learning the business. If they prove to be good operators they graduate from railway work into the commercial service, and the exceptionally good men are picked from this to man the newspaper wires. The Interstate Commerce Commission intends to devote one section of its report to this subject and will recommend a stiff telegraphic examination such as will effectually debar boys and tyros from the railway service.

It is understood that a new treaty with Santo Domingo will be presented to Congress before the close of the present session, and the chances are that it will pass. This government has made a decided record since it began administering the finances of the turbulent little republic, and has accumulated a balance of over \$2,000,000, from the customs receipts, which will be applied to liquidating the government's indebtedness. Further than that the claims of foreign creditors have been revised, and cut down so that instead of a foreign debt of \$21,000,000 the foreign claims against the island will aggregate only \$12,000,000. The internal debt has also been scaled down from \$9,000,000 to \$5,000,000,

and this, with the money in hand, will reduce the island's total indebtedness to about \$15,000,000, which she could very easily stagger along with were the revenues honestly and judiciously applied by the native government.

Cuba is on the verge of getting a salutary lesson according to the estimates that are now being made up by the War department covering the American occupation since the intervention in Cuban affairs became necessary. The total bill to be rendered by the United States against Cuba will amount to over \$4,000,000. This she will have to pay, since the United States is in control of the whole island and all her sources of revenue.

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Greenville, O.

A Remarkable Success.
Few plays have been written in which the story unfolds itself more naturally or with greater interest than "Running for Governor", which Robert Downing is playing with remarkable success. The author has observed the unities. There are no weary soliloquies to tire the audience, no "asides" to explain matters, no eavesdropping, overhearing important conversations and no villain. Of course, there is a clash of interests. The mother wants to marry her daughter to a title, the reporter loves the girl, while the nominee for the governorship of the State, "Hon. John North", is endeavoring to keep the knowledge of his first wife from the ears of the second Mrs. North, and to prevent his brother-in-law from wedding wife number one. A bad boy and a servant girl with a passion for sensational literature also figure in the plot which moves along with many complications. Herbert Bashford, whose pieces are familiar to magazine readers, wrote the comedy for Mr. Downing and the title role is exactly fitted to him in every way. At the Opera House, Friday evening, January 18.

FOR SALE—Double bass violin and 6-key flute. R. M. Dalrymple, Greenville, O.

Took Him Down a Peg.
The young doctor to whom the Æsculapian oath was Greek looked contemptuously at the old woman who had come to the uptown hospital where he was an interne to inquire about her son.

"He has cerebral neurosis, I told you once," he said.

"Oh, dear," said the woman, for she was not as ornately educated as the young physician, "is it as bad as that? New—what do you call it?"

"Neurosis," said the surgeon. "Don't I talk plain enough for you?"

"Is it anything like nervous prostration?" inquired the woman. "You will pardon me, sir. My education was along literary rather than scientific lines."

"That's what some call it," said the young physician as he got ready to make a run for the ambulance at the door.—New York Telegram.

Feeling Overcrowded.
It was doubtless Mrs. Howe's "sympathetic nature," to which she constantly referred, that made her carry so many burdens which did not belong to her. Her sufferings were many, but the statement of them often roused her family to mirth.

"How's your head this morning, my dear?" inquired Mr. Howe one morning in a properly solicitous tone.

"It's no better," came in a hollow voice from behind the teapot. "It won't be any better while I can't get Cousin John's lungs and Mary's china and mother's eyes and Harriet's wisdom teeth out of it for one minute."

Ocean Cables.
Iceland is now connected with Europe by cable, and the king of Denmark is in direct communication with his subjects on the northern isle. Cables are built so fast that it is difficult to keep track of them. There are about 250,000 miles of metallic connection under the seas of the world, the average cost of which has been about \$1,000 a mile. A quarter of a billion is a great sum of money, yet it is a small price to pay for communication between continents which send to each other an estimated total of 6,000,000 messages a year.

SOLVED IN SLUMBER.

A Problem That Was Worked Out and Written During Sleep.

Many persons have written while wrapped in slumber. Coleridge writing the poem of "Kubla Khan" in his sleep is a classic instance, but there are numerous others. Here is one which Dr. Carpenter mentions in his book on "Mental Physiology."

A professor at Amsterdam had been given by a banking house of that city a question to solve, involving a long and difficult calculation. Several times he tried to obtain the solution, but each time he made some mistake. At last, all wearied out, he gave the problem to some of his students, telling them that if possible he would like the answer in three days. One of them, eager to get into his teacher's good graces, took it home and worked on it for three successive nights in vain.

"At last I bent myself over my figures for a third evening. It was winter, and I calculated till half past 1 in the morning, all to no purpose. The product was erroneous. Low at heart, I threw down my pencil, which already by that time had beciphered three slates. I hesitated whether I would toil through the night, as I knew that the professor wanted an answer the very same morning. But, lo! my candle was already burning in the socket, and the persons with whom I lived had gone to rest. Then I also went to bed, my head filled with ciphers, and, tired in mind, I fell asleep. In the morning I awoke just early enough to dress and prepare myself to go to the lecture, vexed at heart at not having been able to solve the question and at having to disappoint my teacher.

"But, oh, wonder! As I approach my writing table I find on it a paper with figures in my own hand and (think of my astonishment!) the whole problem on it solved quite aright and without a single blunder. I wanted to ask my hostess whether any one had been in my room, but was stopped by my own handwriting. Thus I must have calculated the problem in my sleep and in the dark to boot. And, what was most remarkable, the computation was so succinct that what I saw before me on a single folio sheet had required three slates, closely beciphered on both sides, during my waking state. Professor Von Swinden was amazed at the event and declared to me that while calculating the problem himself he had never once thought of a solution so simple and concise."—Exchange.

Embarrassing.
"The sexton of a quaint old Maryland church," said a clergyman, "showed me through the cool, dim building one warm afternoon and as we were departing pointed to the Bible on the lectern and smiled.

"A strange thing happened last Sunday in connection with that Bible," he said. "We had a strange minister preaching here, and when he opened the book he came upon a notice and read it out with all due solemnity. It was a request for the congregation's sympathy and prayers for John Q. Griggs, who had been deeply afflicted by the loss of his wife."

"The sexton paused and chuckled softly.

"You see, sir," he said, "our regular minister has been using that paper as a bookmark more than a year, and John Q. Griggs, in a natty gray suit, sat in a front pew with the new wife he had taken just the week before."

A Castle in Ireland.
The name of castle for a country house is preserved in Ireland, rather curiously, for Ireland has not the vestiges of French customs so noticeable in Scotland. The dullest little villa, so it be solitary in an Irish country place, bears that name, and the smile of the Saxon when he arrives and sees the castle is cheap and unscholarly. Where the Celt—the female Celt, that is—does earn and deserve that slight sign of derision is in her practice with her visiting cards intended for London use. The word castle there for a second and country address does seem to suggest machinations, if not sieges and sally ports.—London Chronicle.

Got His Answer.
An Englishman traveling in Ireland complained that he could find none of the famous Irish wits of whom he had heard. He was advised to speak to the next farmer or teamster he met. A little later he encountered a peasant leading a horse with a load of turf. The horse had a blazed face.

"What a white face your horse has, my man!" said the Englishman by way of an opening.

"Sure," replied the Irishman, "your own will be as white when it has been as long in the halter."—Birmingham Post.

A GERMAN BUGABOO.

Of all the bugaboos in this world of political ghosts perhaps the most shadowy is the constantly repeated warning against Germany's absorption of Brazil.

The German inhabitants of Brazil number about 250,000 in a total population of something like 17,000,000, and Brazil is about as large as the United States minus Alaska. There are three Italians

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for one German in Brazil and \$10 of British capital for every German dollar invested.

In the two southern states of Brazil there was considerable German immigration about 1840, and the descendants of the original immigrants have multiplied amazingly. But they have not been re-enforced to any considerable extent by subsequent immigration, and they have intermarried freely with the Portuguese and the Brazilians.

I believe I am very near the correct figures in stating that in the last ten years less than 10,000 Germans have immigrated into Brazil. Their principal centers are the cities of Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo and Santos, and the three southern states of Parana, Santa Catharina and Rio Grande do Sul.—Caspar Whitney in Outing Magazine.

Two Powerful Factors.
Jack Barrymore, son of Maurice Barrymore and himself an actor of some ability, is not overparticular about his personal appearance and is a little lazy. He was in San Francisco on the morning of the earthquake. He was thrown out of bed by one of the shocks, spun around on the floor and left gasping in a corner. Finally he got to his feet and rushed for the bathtub, where he stayed all that day. Next day he ventured out. A soldier with a bayonet on his gun captured Barrymore and compelled him to pile bricks for two days. Barrymore was telling of his terrible experiences in the Lambs' club in New York.

"Extraordinary!" commented Augustus Thomas, the playwright. "It took a convulsion of nature to make Jack take a bath and the United States army to make him go to work."—Saturday Evening Post.

Skiddoo and 23.
The slang words "skiddoo" and "twenty-three" have an associated meaning which is "get out of the way." "Make way for your betters," and so forth. "Skiddoo" seems to be another form of "skedaddle," which is an old, familiar slang word for precipitate retreat. It is probably college slang, since it is derived from the Greek word "skedazein," which means run away. The figures "23" are a telegraphic signal or abbreviation, which means that messages marked with it need not be hurried through if there is more important matter to occupy the wires. A "23" message, therefore, is one that has to surrender the right of way if there are others that must be rushed through without delay. In other words, it has to get out of the way of its betters.—St. Louis Republic.

W. W. TEEGARDEN,
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Office 220 New Weaver Building opp. Court House, Greenville, O. Will attend promptly to all business entrusted to his care.